

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 08 April 2005 (08.04.05);
original claims 1 and 6 amended ; original claim 5 deleted ;
remaining claims unchanged (1 page)]

1. Method for removing at least one constituent from a solution,
comprising:
 - forming a liquid mixture by bringing together said solution and a particulate
seed material under conditions or in the presence of one or more substances
 - 5 which cause the constituent to be removed to crystallize out on the surface of
the seed material; and
 - separating the seed material having the constituent to be removed
crystallized out thereon from the liquid mixture by passing the liquid mixture
through a filter, wherein the pore size of the filter is greater than the particle
 - 10 size of the seed material.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the particle size of the seed
material is from 0.1 to 50 μm .
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the pore size of the filter is
equal to or less than 150 μm .
- 15 4. Method according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the particle size of
the seed material is from 5 to 25 μm .
6. Method according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein one or more
substances cause the constituent to be removed to crystallize out on the surface
of the seed material.
- 20 7. Method according to any one of claims 1-6, wherein the seed material
comprises an inorganic material selected from the group consisting of a mineral
clay types, silica particles, silicates or diatoms.
8. Method according to any of claims 1-6, wherein the seed material
comprises an organic material selected from the group consisting of cellulose,
25 stearate and lactose.